

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for performing an operation relating to a printed wiring board, comprising:
 - a main frame;
 - a printed-wiring-board holding device which is provided on the main frame, and includes a holding table having a surface and a plurality of negative-pressure-supply holes opening in the surface, and additionally includes a plurality of holding members each of which has a support surface, a bottom surface for close contact with the surface of the holding table, and a negative-pressure passage formed therethrough, and is set on the surface of the holding table such that the negative-pressure passage thereof is communicated with at least one of the negative-pressure-supply holes, so that the support surface of said each holding member supports the back surface of the printed wiring board and a negative pressure supplied via the negative-pressure passage from said at least one negative-pressure-supply hole is applied to the back surface of the board to hold the board;
 - an operation performing device which is provided on the main frame and performs an operation for a front surface of the printed wiring board held by the printed-wiring-board holding device;
 - a holding-member storing device which is provided on the main frame and in which the holding members are stored;
 - a first holding head which can hold each of the holding members;
 - a first moving device which moves at least one of the first holding head, and each of the holding table and the holding-member storing device, relative to the other of the first holding head and said each of the holding table and the holding-member storing device,

in at least a direction parallel to the surface of the holding table, so that the first holding head takes a prescribed one of the holding members from the holding-member storing device and sets said one holding member at a prescribed setting position on the surface of the holding table, and takes said one holding member from the setting position and stores said one holding member in the holding-member storing device;

a plurality of closing members each of which is set on the surface of the holding table and closes one of the negative-pressure-supply holes that is not communicated with the negative-pressure passages of any holding members;

a closing-member storing device which is provided on the main frame and in which the closing members are stored;

a second holding head which can hold each of the closing members;

a second moving device which moves at least one of the second holding head, and each of the holding table and the closing-member storing device, relative to the other of the second holding head and said each of the holding table and the closing-member storing device, in at least a direction parallel to the surface of the holding table, so that the second holding head takes a prescribed one of the closing members from the closing-member storing device and sets said one closing member at a prescribed closing position on the surface of the holding table where said one closing member closes a prescribed one of the negative-pressure-supply holes that is not communicated with the negative-pressure passages of any holding members, and the second holding head takes said one closing member from the closing position and stores said one closing member in the closing-member storing device; and

a control device which controls the first moving device so that the first holding head takes said one holding member from the holding-member storing device and sets said one holding member at the setting position, and takes said one holding member from the

setting position and stores said one holding member in the holding-member storing device, and controls the second moving device so that the second holding head takes said one closing member from the closing-member storing device and sets said one closing member at the closing position, and takes said one closing member from the closing position and stores said one closing member in the closing-member storing device.

2. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the first and second holding heads comprise a common holding head, and the first and second moving devices comprise a common moving device.

3. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the holding-member storing device and the closing-member storing device comprise a common storing device.

4. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the operation performing device comprises an operation performing head which performs said operation, and wherein the first moving device moves at least one of the operation performing head and the printed-wiring-board supporting device, relative to the other of the operation performing head and the printed-wiring-board holding device, in at least a direction parallel to the surface of the holding table, so that the operation performing head performs said operation.

5-6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the operation performing device comprises an electric-component mounting device which mounts at least one electric component on the front surface of the printed wiring board held by the printed-wiring-board holding device.

8. (Previously Presented) The system according claim 1, wherein the operation performing device comprises an operation performing head which performs said operation,

and wherein the system further comprises a third moving device which moves at least one of the operation performing head and the printed-wiring-board holding device, relative to the other of the operation performing head and the printed-wiring-board holding device, in at least a direction parallel to the surface of the holding table, so that the operation performing head performs said operation.

9. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 8, further comprising a first hold-table holding device which holds the holding table such that the holding table is detachable therefrom; and a second holding-table holding device which holds the holding table such that the holding table is detachable therefrom, and wherein the main frame comprises a first frame on which the operation performing device and the first holding-table holding device are provided; and a second frame which is separate from the first frame and on which the holding-member storing device, the closing-member storing device, and the second holding-table holding device are provided.